

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): An optical observation instrument comprising:
at least one detachably mounted eyepiece having an intermediate image plane; and
a device being arranged in said intermediate image plane for displaying information relating
to the adjusted instrument parameters, a current operating state, and/or an object to be
observed in a visually perceptible manner~~[,]~~;
wherein a self-illuminating LED display which is connected to control electronics or an LCD
display with background illumination which is connected to control electronics is
provided in the intermediate image plane of the eyepiece outside the image field area
reserved for observation of the specimen; and
wherein the information for the observer is perceptible in the eyepiece outside the image field
area reserved for observation of the specimen.

Claim 7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (previously presented): The optical observation instrument according to claim 6,
wherein a plurality of control electronics are integrated in the eyepiece tube and are
connected by control lines and supply lines to a central operating device and supply
device of the observation instrument.

Claim 9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (currently amended): An eyepiece for optical observation instruments
comprising:

a device arranged in an intermediate image plane of said eyepiece for displaying information in a visually perceptible manner;

said eyepiece being constructed to be detachably mounted on a microscope and having a shape, size, and fastening means in a same manner which is the same as an eyepiece not having such a device, so that an eyepiece with such a device can be exchanged with an eyepiece without such a device or vice versa on optical observation instrument;

wherein a self-illuminating LED display which is connected to control electronics or an LCD display with background illumination which is connected to control electronics is provided in the intermediate image plane of the eyepiece outside the image field area reserved for observation of the specimen; and

wherein the information for the observer is perceptible in the eyepiece outside the image field area reserved for observation of the specimen.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An eyepiece for optical observation instruments comprising:

a device arranged in an intermediate image plane of said eyepiece for displaying information in a visually perceptible manner;

said eyepiece being constructed to be detachably mounted on a microscope and having a shape, size, and fastening means in a same manner which is the same as an eyepiece not having such a device, so that said eyepiece with or without such a device can be exchanged with an eyepiece without such a device on optical observation instruments;

wherein a self-illuminating LED display which is connected to control electronics or an LCD display with background illumination which is connected to control electronics is provided in the intermediate image plane of the eyepiece outside the image field area reserved for observation of the specimen; and

wherein the information for the observer is perceptible in the eyepiece outside the image field area reserved for observation of the specimen.